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August 23, 2007

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON
CAPITAL PLANNING**

The Committee on Capital Planning held a meeting on August 23, 2007, with Chairman Sean O'Donovan presiding and Committee Members Aldermen Walter Pero and William White, Jr. also present and voting. Also present were Mayor Joe Curtatone, Monica Lamboy and Alice Martin from SPCD, Jerry Boyle from Capital Projects, Michael Lambert from the Mayor's Office, Municipal Property Review Committee (MPRC) members Tom Bent and Charles McKenzie and interested members of the public.

Mr. Bent and Mr. McKenzie addressed the committee and presented the results of the Municipal Property Review. Because the average age of the 10 properties studied is 85 years, with 4 properties greater than 100 years and all but 1 greater than 45 years, the ability of these facilities to serve the program needs of today is strained. The MPRC offered 3 approaches to the consolidation of city-owned property and services, as follows:

- Consolidation to centralize municipal services
- Consolidation to divest properties with the highest disposition value and highest renovation costs, and
- Consolidate conservatively at present to provide flexibility for the city's future growth

Mr. Bent provided the pros and cons for each approach and said that the MPRC recommends that the city keep the Cummings School.

Mr. Boyle addressed the members regarding the new field house at Trum Field informing them that the retaining wall has been a problem, delaying the project by 8 weeks and. It will cost \$375,000 to properly construct a new retaining wall. NSTAR will also be relocating their transformer to field level. The project is expected to be completed in January of 2008. Mr. Boyle also told the members that the Argenziano School is expected to come in \$1.8 million under budget.

The committee discussed the renovation of the Albion Park Playground and was told that the project is not in a block grant eligible area. The renovation would begin with a design process, but since there is no funding available to hire a landscape architect, the project is on hold. Mayor Curtatone told the members that the city is in the process of trying to identify funding for the project and that the renovation of the park is a priority.

No papers were acted on.

Sean T. O'Donovan, Chairman
Committee on Capital Planning

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee on Capital Planning,
August 23, 2007

In Board of Aldermen

Clerk